

Broadband expansion: A collaboration of funding partners

House Capital Budget Committee

- Dr. Lisa Brown, Director, Department of Commerce
- Erika Henry, Deputy Director, State Broadband Office
- Karin Berkholtz, Executive Director, Public Works Board
- Janea Delk, Executive Director, Community Economic Revitalization Board
- Ernie Rasmussen, Digital Equity Manager, State Broadband Office

2/1/22



Washington State
Department of
Commerce



WASHINGTON STATE
PUBLIC WORKS BOARD
INFRASTRUCTURE IS FUNDAMENTAL



We strengthen communities



**HOUSING
HOMELESSNESS**



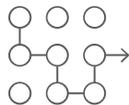
INFRASTRUCTURE



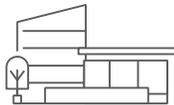
**BUSINESS
ASSISTANCE**



ENERGY



PLANNING



COMMUNITY FACILITIES



**CRIME VICTIMS &
PUBLIC SAFETY**



**COMMUNITY
SERVICES**

Broadband is essential infrastructure

- Emphasizing the importance of broadband connectivity.
- Reliable broadband access in our communities has become a basic need.
- Addressing the Digital Divide.



PWB-funded broadband project in Grant County, WA

The future of broadband funding

- Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and anticipated federal funds through 2026.
- What's next from the state's broadband funders.



H. R. 3684

One Hundred Seventeenth Congress
of the
United States of America

AT THE FIRST SESSION

*Began and held at the City of Washington on Sunday,
the third day of January, two thousand and twenty-one*

An Act

To authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of
the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act".

Impact of 2021-23 broadband funding

- 43 projects awarded nearly **\$215 million** since July 1, 2021.



Ribbon cutting of the CERB-funded fiber-to-the-home project in Pomeroy, WA

- Investments have the potential to create **35,000** connections.
- Together, we are committed to connecting every household and business.

Enhancing interagency coordination



Washington Broadband Resources and Funding

Commerce, the Community Economic Revitalization Board, and the Public Works Board are dedicated to closing the digital divide. From mapping to planning and construction, we have the resources and technical support to realize the state goal of connecting every household and business.

Connecting the state to high speed broadband is a key goal for these three agencies because broadband fosters economic development and vitality, job creation, and supports Washington businesses in local, regional, and global markets. It allows students to access educational opportunities, fosters telemedicine and is a key component in public safety.



2021-23 broadband capital appropriations

Funder	Appropriation	Source*
CERB	\$25,000,000	Coronavirus Capital Projects Account-Federal
PWB	\$14,000,000	Statewide Broadband Account-State
	\$46,000,000	Coronavirus Capital Projects Account-Federal
SBO	\$16,000,000	Coronavirus Capital Projects Account-Federal
	\$50,000,000	State Building Construction Account-State
	\$260,003,000	Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Account-Federal
Total	\$411,003,000	

*Current law, enacted capital budget

State Broadband Office funding Overview: American Rescue Plan resources

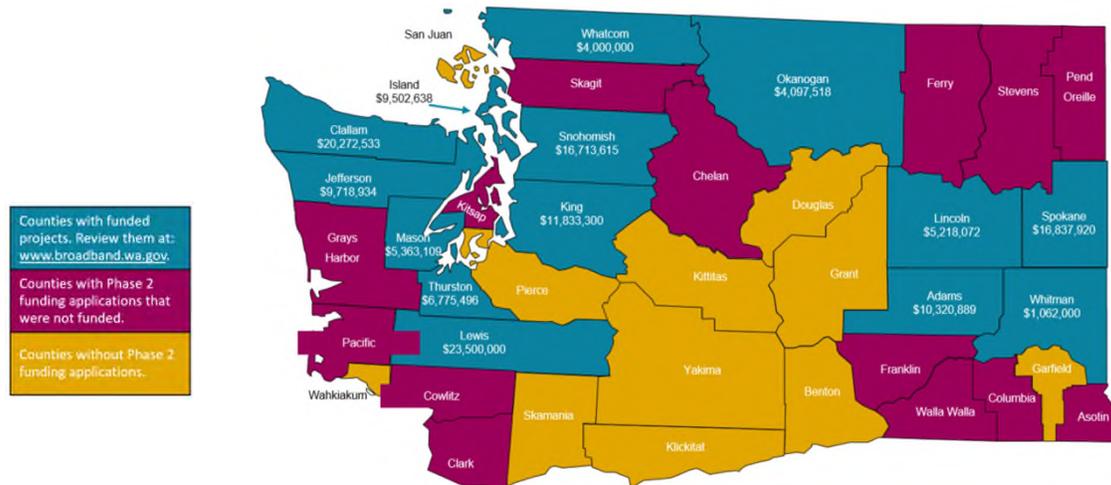
Infrastructure Acceleration Grants (Dec. 2021 and May 2022)

- Awarded \$145M to 13 projects from \$400M+ in applications.
- Awards cover 67 schools and early learning facilities, serving more than 10,000 enrolled students.
- May 2022 will bring a second funding cycle for \$120M.

Equity and Affordability Grants (coming soon)

- \$5M available and to be awarded in partnership with Office of Equity

State Broadband Office funding Overview: American Rescue Plan resources



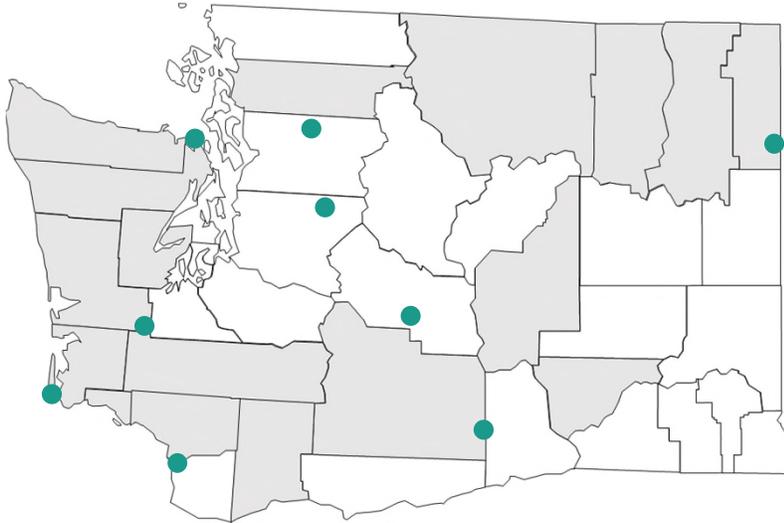
State Broadband Office funding overview: state resources

Matching Grants of federal funding opportunities (continuously open since Nov. 2021)

- \$50M in state funds available with grants up to \$5M or 25% of federal request.
- \$163M in pending federal applications from NTIA.
- Award decisions expected later this spring.



PWB Broadband Awards



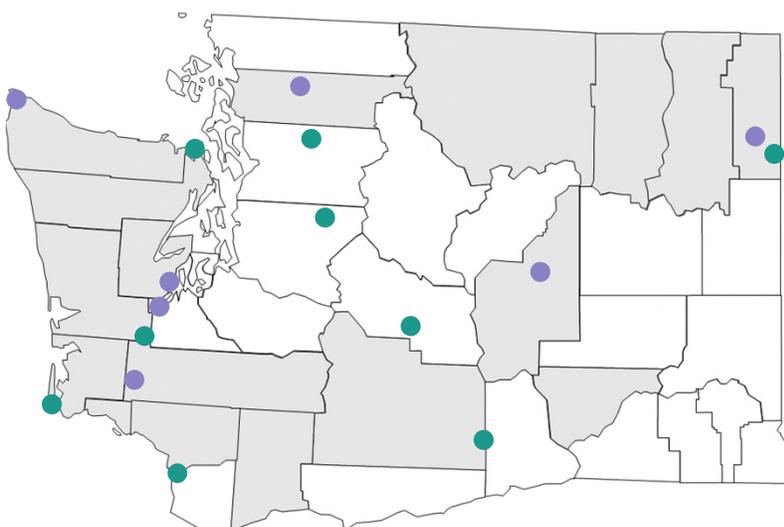
Broadband Program	Awards	Funds
FY20 Planning	9	\$450K

FY20 State Funds

- Seven of the planning-feasibility grant recipients have applied for construction funds.



PWB Broadband Awards



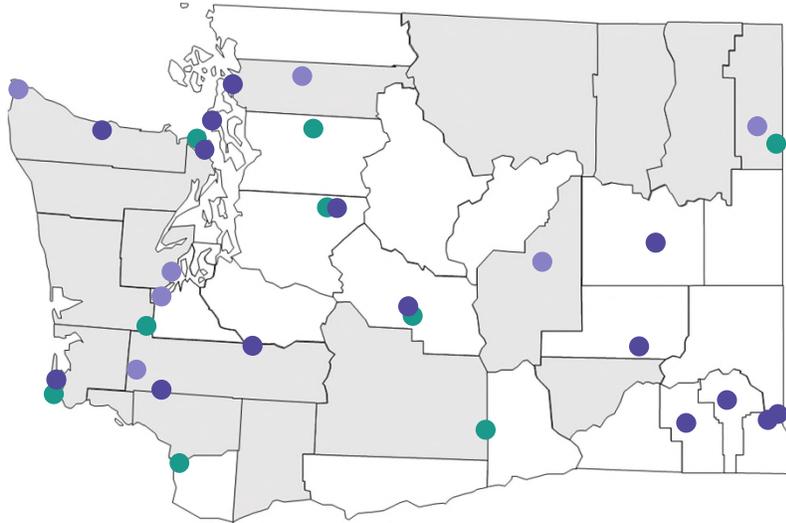
Broadband Program	Awards	Funds
FY20 Planning	9	\$450K
FY21 Construction	7	\$11.5M

FY21 State Funds

- Once complete, these construction projects will provide 1,927 connections.



PWB Broadband Awards



Broadband Program	Awards	Funds
FY20 Planning	9	\$450K
FY21 Construction	7	\$11.5M
FY22 Construction	15*	\$44.7M

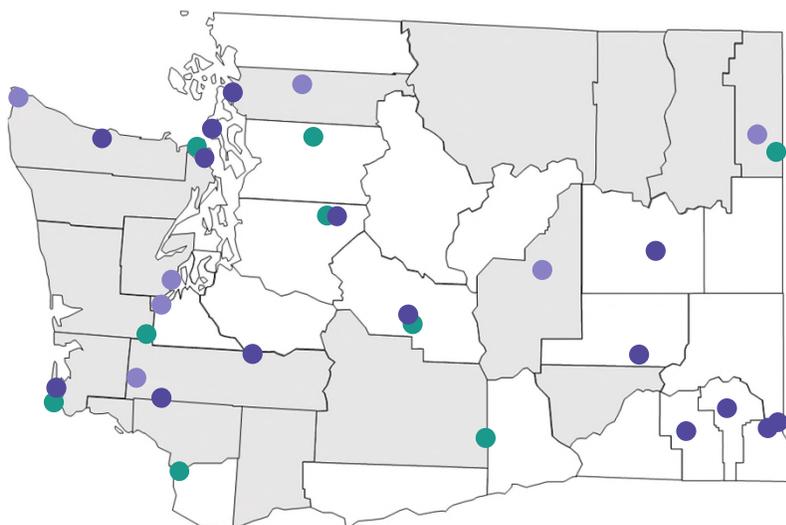
*Conditional awards until federal funds are released

FY22 Federal Funds

- Awards up to \$2M for non-tribal, non-rural communities and up to \$5M for tribal or rural communities.
- Once complete, these construction projects will provide 8,526 connections



PWB Broadband Awards



Broadband Program	Awards	Funds
FY20 Planning	9	\$450K
FY21 Construction	7	\$11.5M
FY22 Construction	15*	\$44.7M

*Conditional awards until federal funds are released

FY22 State Funds

- Construction loans to connect unserved populations.
- Awards up to \$2M for non-tribal, non-rural communities and up to \$5M for tribal or rural communities.
- State loan cycle opening in February with awards in July.

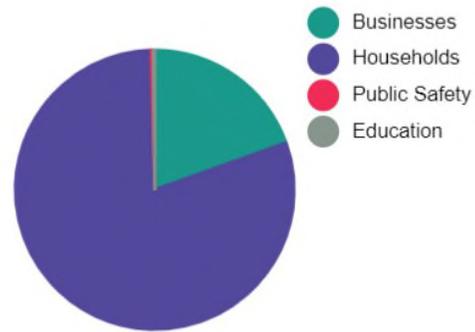


PWB Broadband FY22 Federal Cycle

Summary of 15 Conditionally Awarded Project

Conditional Awards Funded	\$44,676,617
Total Project Costs	\$46,117,317
Unfunded Requests	\$45,360,209
Distressed/Rural	14
Eastern Washington Project Area	8
Western Washington Project Area	7
Miles of Fiber	459
Towers	11
Anticipated Connections	8,526

Anticipated Connection by Type



PWB Broadband Statute Cleanup

Current PWB Broadband Application Cycle



PWB Broadband Application Cycle with Statute Modifications





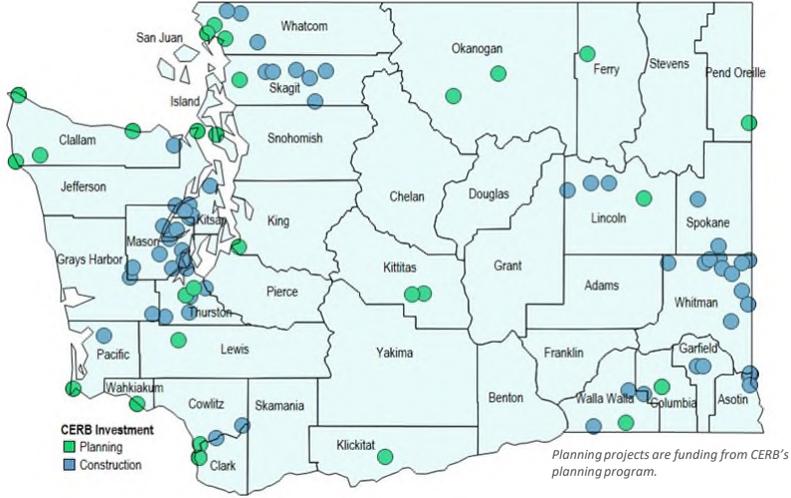
\$37,847,907 Invested

28 Projects
72 Communities
21,112 Estimated Connections
136 ISPs
5 Towers
~500 Miles of Fiber

\$1,793 Cost Per Connection
\$1,645,561 Average Investment

94% of the connections are households

94% of the connections are 1G/1G



CERB Investment
■ Planning
■ Construction

Planning projects are funding from CERB's planning program.





Ribbon cutting of the CERB-funded fiber-to-the-home project in Tekoa, WA

HB 1740

- Codifies the broadband program CERB has administered since 2018.
- Expands CERB's reach to support the state's goal to connect every household and business by 2028.

Funding

- CERB has awarded all appropriated funds, **~\$38 million**, since 2018.
- CERB is requesting **\$120 million** in additional funding.

Pipeline

- CERB staff is actively working on a project pipeline in excess of **\$155 million**.



January 2019 - This project consists of engineering and construction of dark fiber infrastructure on aerial poles with last mile components in the City of Pomeroy. Their partner Internet Service Provider is Pocket iNet Communications, Inc. ([Success Story Video](#))

Population: 1,263 (2019)

Project Completed: March 2021



Project Funding	
CERB Grant	\$137,500
CERB Loan	\$412,500
Match	\$300,000
Project Total	\$850,000



March 2021 Outcomes - 1G/1G	
Households	598
Businesses	78
Anchor Institutions	8
Total Connections	684
ISP Partners	3

Leading with equity



Digital Equity Forum

- Co-convening in partnership with the Governor's Office of Equity
- Listening to community perspectives

Digital Navigators

- Four grants totaling \$7.4M to provide devices, subscriptions, technical support services, and skills training.

Thank you!

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